UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/627
11 August 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 11 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued today by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.

I should be very grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) R. ALIMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Tajikistan
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: Russian]

Statement issued on 11 August 1997 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan

In recent days, there have been clashes in Dushanbe and in several districts in the south of Tajikistan between independent armed groups. These have produced localized destruction and have resulted in casualties.

The energetic and decisive measures taken by the Government have put an end to these clashes, and the forces that took part in them have been neutralized. Most of the elements of the armed groups that took part in the conflict have been disarmed and the forces of order are looking for the remaining elements who are on the run. The situation in Dushanbe and throughout the country has stabilized and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan has the situation well under control.

Governing circles in Tajikistan interpret these events as a desperate attempt to derail the peace process and to prevent the speedy conclusion of agreements dealing with an inter-Tajik settlement. Naturally, these attempts run counter to the hard-won right of the people of Tajikistan to live in peace and to see this series of conflicts which are suicidal for the country come to an end. There is no doubt that these attempts are doomed to fail.

As for the differences that exist with regard to the implementation of the peace agreements with the opposition, the leaders of Tajikistan remain willing to settle them by peaceful and political means.